

FOREIGN BROADCAST
INFORMATION SERVICE

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FBIS 80

POWERS "SCANDAL"

HAVANA IN SPANISH TO THE AMERICAS 1400 8 MAR 62 E

(SUMMARY) A GREAT SCANDAL OCCURRED IN THE UNITED STATES ON THE RETURN HOME OF FRANCIS GARY POWERS, THE SPY-PILOT OF THE U-2 PLANE BROUGHT DOWN BY THE ROCKET ARTILLERY OF THE SOVIET UNION IN MAY 1960. THE IMPERIALISTS OFFICIALS WERE DIVIDED INTO TWO CAMPS IN THEIR OPINION OF THE POWERS CASE. ONE GROUP CONSIDERED THAT HE HAD ACTED AS A TRAITOR. THE OTHER BELIEVED THAT HE HAD ACTED AS "A GOOD AMERICAN."

"AFTER A MONTH OF PROLONGED INTERROGATION BY THE CIA, THE YANKEE CENTRAL AGENCY, WHICH WAS REALLY TORTURE, ACCCOMPANIED BY ALL KINDS OF TESTS TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER HE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH, POWERS WAS BROUGHT BEFORE CONGRESS, WHERE HE WAS PRACTICALLY VINDICATED. THE CIA AGENT'S VINDICATION WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE APPROPRIATE MERCENARY TOUCH: RECOGNITION THAT POWERS MUST BE PAID THE 50,000 DOLLARS OWED HIM FOR HIS SERVICES."

A.P. REPORTS THAT THE YANKEE SENATORS APPLAUDED POWERS' TESTIMONY. ONE CONGRESSMAN CONGRATULATED HIM AS A VALIANT U.S. CITIZEN WHO HAD CARRIED OUT HIS ORDERS.

"IT IS DIFFICULT TO AGREE WITH THE ENTHUSIASTIC U.S. SENATORS. POWERS DID NOT ACT AS A GOOD CITIZEN. TO SAY SO IS TO INSULT THE REALLY GOOD AMERICANS, THE WORKERS, THE UNEMPLOYED, THE FARMERS, THE HONEST INTELLECTUALS, THE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST NEGROES, AND THE PROGRESSIVE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES."

"POWERS ACTING AS A U.S. SPY, AS A CIA AGENT, WHICH IS NOT EVEN REMOTELY THE SAME THING. MOREOVER, IT WILL BE REMEMBERED THAT POWERS DID NOT EVEN FOLLOW CIA ORDERS, EITHER BECAUSE HE COULD NOT OR BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID TO. HE WAS ORDERED TO DESTROY THE PLANE IF IT WERE HIT AND HE DID NOT DESTROY IT. HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO COMMIT SUICIDE WITH A POISON NEEDLE AND HE DID NOT POISON HIMSELF. HE WAS ORDERED NOT TO SAY ANYTHING AND HE WENT SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT HE WAS SORRY HE HAD PLAYED THE ROLE OF A PROVOCATIVE SPY IN THE SERVICE OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. NOW POWERS EXPLAINS THAT WHAT HE WAS SORRY ABOUT WAS THAT HE HAD FAILED IN HIS MISSION. EVEN IN THIS HE ACTED LIKE A GOOD U.S. IMPERIALISTS, AS A COWARDLY, LYING BOASTER."

"BESIDES THIS, SOMETHING ELSE WAS MADE VERY CLEAR IN THE POWERS CASE. THE CIA HAD TO RECOGNIZE THE POWER AND THE EXTRAORDINARY EFFECTIVENESS OF SOVIET ROCKETS AND THE SPY HAD TO ADMIT THE CORRECT TREATMENT HE RECEIVED IN THE USSR."

8 MAR 230 P FG/JH